

A SHORT and CANDID

NARRATIVE

O F

Mr. *CLARKE*'s DISMISSION

F R O M

The CURACY of HAMPSTEAD. 112

THE late Dismission of Mr. *Clarke* from the Curacy of *Hampstead*, having been the Subject of Conversation in that Neighbourhood, it will be natural to enquire, upon what Reasons such Dismission is founded; and in order to prevent any unfavourable Construction, it may be proper to lay the following Narrative before the Public.

The Function and Character of a Clergyman are so very tender, and obnoxious to malignant Reflections, and so essential is the

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Prefer-



Preservation of them to his Happiness, Interest and Fortune, (especially where they are the chief Dependance of a large Family, for their necessary Support and Education;) that Humanity and Benevolence will never be over forward to believe, or eagerly and implicitly imbibe, any ill-natured Reports, or malicious Censures, to the irreparable Prejudice of any Reputation, that falls under their Severity; at least without first carefully examining, whether such unfavourable Relations are agreeable to Truth, grounded on incontestable Facts, or supported by proper Evidence: so far it will be allow'd, that not only a Clergyman, but every Individual, has a Claim to the good Opinion and Candour of his Neighbour; and this is all Mr. *Clarke* presumes to request in the present Affair; and he flatters himself with the Expectation, that he shall not be refused that Justice from every candid Person, which is the common Privilege of Mankind.

It is no small Concern to him, that he is under the unavoidable Necessity of appealing to the Public in Defence of his own Character; and the more so, should it happen, that, what is offer'd in Justification of himself, may consequentially reflect any Dishonour upon the Character of another: as it must give a very sensible Uneasiness, to be under a prudential Obligation of rescuing an injured Reputation from Calumny and Falshood,

Falshood, if the Method of effecting it, should either expose the Weakness or call in Question the Honour and Veracity of a Person, with whom Mr. *Clarke* could have wish'd to have been on better Terms: but, if this should be the Case, Mr. *Clarke* hopes it will be look'd upon as his Misfortune, not his Choice.

In stating the present Case, Mr. *Clarke* is not so positive and assuming as to expect, that an implicit Credit should be given to Assertions, unless satisfactory Proof, or proper Vouchers be produced; as this, he conceives, will be the best Method of steering clear of all entangling Errors and Misrepresentations, will cut off the Pretensions of all vagrant Rumours and uncertain Hearsays, and be a solid Basis, upon which the Examiner may found his Judgment.

It is Mr. *Clarke's* Intention to advance nothing in this Narrative, but what shall be attested (if demanded) by Affidavits or original Papers; and if the Truth of any Article, shall fall under the Suspicion of Falshood, he will endeavour to make it clear and manifest; and hopes, that he shall still experience from those, who have been Witnesses to his Endeavours and Services, in the Supply of the Cure for so many Years, the Favour and Generosity of having his Case go through an impartial Examination; as he is willing to stand or fall by the Judgment

ment of his Neighbours, and earnestly desires, that he may be acquitted with Honour, or dismissed with Infamy.

Errington Mr. *Clarke's* first Engagement with Mr. *Warren* in the Supply of his Cure, was in *October 1748* (being recommended to him by the kind Office of Mr. *Er—ton*) to whom he therefore takes this Opportunity of acknowledging his Thanks and Gratitude for that Favour) and from that Time, till his unexpected Dismission at *Christmas 1759*, constantly endeavour'd, to the utmost of his Power, to serve the Cure with Diligence and Punctuality, and never once refused to attend the Duties of his Office, whether by Night or Day, even at the extreme Parts of the Parish, where his Assistance was required; nor has he, as far as his own Consciousness informs him, given any just Cause of Displeasure or Resentment; and begs Leave to appeal to all and each Family and Person in the Parish, who have indulg'd him with their Acquaintance or Company, whether ever they heard him mention Mr. *Warren's* Name or any of his Family with the least ill-natured or injurious Insinuation, or any Expressions, that might bear the Construction of Disrespect or Reflection; and there is a particular Reason, why Mr. *Clarke* should justify himself in this Point, as it is one of the great Accusations laid to his Charge: to this Aspersions
Mr.

Mr. *Clarke* would venture to oppose his general Character, and he is conscious to himself, that upon Examination it will stand clear, of either raising or propagating any Falshood, Scandal or Detraction, to the Prejudice or Injury of the Reputation of any one, since he has been concern'd in the Parish.

As Mr. *Clarke* designs this Narrative to be only a plain and simple Relation of Matters of Fact, he would avoid incumbering it with any labour'd Periods of Eloquence and Art, and rather chooses to submit the Decision, to the unbias'd Judgment of his Readers, than attempt to influence their Opinion, by Remarks and Observations of his own; and as he would studiously endeavour to decline all Invectives and virulent Expressions of Resentment, so he hopes, that nothing that is said in this Narrative, will be considered, as an assuming Arrogance, or a Fondness of Self-commendation; or that certain Truths, that must be inserted in this Relation, will have the Construction of a malicious revengeful Spirit, that delights in Scandal or Defamation: but should he decline doing himself Justice in this Point, it would be acting far below the Dignity of a rational Nature, and betray a great Meanness of Spirit, a sordid Insensibility, and want of Resolution not to defend a Character, that is dishonourably treated: in

this Case, a passive, cowardly Acquiescence, would be so far from a laudable Moderation, or the Virtue of Christian Patience, that it would be a base Desertion of his Honour and moral Behaviour, and would deservedly fix that Odium, that has been attempted to be thrown upon his Conduct.

It will be admitted by every impartial Person, that some strong and justifiable Reasons should have been given, for turning *Mr. Clarke* out of a Cure, he had served between 11 and 12 Years; for tho' it may be a Matter of Indifference to an Incumbent (as it no wise affects his Interest or Fortune) by whom he is served; yet the Case may be far otherwise with the Curate, as his Dismission may entirely disconcert his present Situation, deprive him of a considerable Part of the Support of his Family, and expose him to Difficulties and Inconveniencies, that are out of his Power to prevent or redress.—But however disadvantageous this might have been in Point of Interest to *Mr. Clarke*, he would have endeavoured to have born with these Inconveniencies, and acquiesced in his Dismission, if he had not been informed, that uncommon Pains had been taken in accusing and representing his Character, in a very unamiable and criminal Light, upon several Occasions and in different Places: whether this was done to give a fair Countenance
and

and plausible Colour to the Measure that has been taken, is left to the Opinion of the Reader. — Mr. *Clarke* has been so unhappy, as to have but too much Reason to believe, that there has been no cordial Friendship or benevolent Disposition towards him, for six or seven Years last past, notwithstanding many Professions of Regard, and voluntary Promises to serve him and his Family; and has been very sensible what Methods have been taken, to lower him as much as possible in the Opinion of the Inhabitants of this Place; which Mr. *Clarke* never resented or took the least Notice of, being desirous, of giving no Cause of Resentment or Exasperation; and resolving, as long as he should continue in this dependant State of Subordination, to have no Dispute or Contention, but peaceably and diligently attend upon the Duties of his Office.

It will be here necessary, consistently with what Mr. *Clarke* proposed, to give some Proof of the above Assertion, by recollecting a few Instances, that will be sufficient to prove, that this Suspicion was not without Foundation.

About five Years ago, without any justifiable Reason assign'd, Mr. *W—bt* was order'd to give Mr. *Clarke* Notice to quit the Cure, and to tell him that he should hold it no longer, &c. — To which Mr. *Clarke* answer'd, that, as he apprehended
Mr.

Mr. *W—ght* was not concern'd in the Agreement between Mr. *Warren* and Mr. *Clarke*, he should take no farther Notice of that Message; but when he received it immediately from Mr. *Warren*, either by Word of Mouth or in Writing, he should endeavour to act properly on that Occasion: and a few Days after, when Mr. *Clarke* was with Mr. *Warren* at his Lodgings (his House being then rebuilding) Mr. *Warren* never mentioned a Word (either then or ever afterwards) of his having sent or order'd such Message or Notice to Mr. *Clarke*; but received him in so smooth and serene a Manner, as tho' it had been an Instance of Friendship, rather than Displeasure and Resentment; whether this was consistent with the above Message, the Reader will judge.

Another Instance which Mr. *Clarke* thought very unkind, was a Complaint and Remonstrance made to Mr. *Er—ton*, that Mr. *Clarke* either had or intended to embezzle the Fees, and injure his Principal in the Profits of his Living; a Charge so criminal in its Nature, and having the particular Aggravation of a Breach of Trust, carries with it an Implication of great Injustice and Dishonour.—The Letter Mr. *Clarke* wrote on that Occasion is here transcribed.

Reverend

Reverend SIR,

I intended to have seen you this Afternoon immediately after Church, but having two Christnings after Service, and another at *North End*, and a sick Person to visit; these detained me till it was Duskish.

As you was not at Home, when I called, I thought it would be proper to inform you, that I set out for *Bedfordshire* to-morrow Morning, and that I have taken Care to provide an Assistant for *Tuesday*, *Wednesday*, *Thursday*, and *Friday*, and shall return myself on *Saturday*.

But the most material Reason, that made me desirous of seeing you, was an Information I received last Week, from Mr. *Er—ton*, that I had fallen under your Displeasure about a Guinea, I received at Mr. *B—g*'s Christning: I confess, I was greatly surpriz'd and confounded, to hear of a Complaint being made to so considerable a Person, without the least Reason or Foundation; for had I been the most suspected Knave, I think, I had sufficiently secured myself against any Imputation or Design of embezzling the least Mite of your Claim; as I had told you, the very first Time I saw you, that Mr. *B—g* had given a Guinea for Christning his Child; and as Mr. *B—g* had made no particular Disposition of it himself,

I should the first convenient Opportunity have deliver'd it into your Hands, to have made what Disposition of it you pleased: But as there always must be a running Account betwixt us, whether this had been settled this Week or next, could in the Nature of Things make no material Difference; or be any reasonable Cause or Foundation, for a Complaint or Accusation to so intimate a Friend.

But least a farther Delay should be attended with any other ill Consequences, I have sent the Guinea inclosed, and am,

*Reverend Sir, (as I always have been)
with the greatest Respect and Integrity
Your most obedient humble Servant,*

September 54.

SAMUEL CLARKE.

It will be needless to anticipate the Reader's Judgment, whether in this Mr. Clarke was treated like a Gentleman or a Clergyman, that had himself been incumbent of a Living near twenty Years.

Another Instance, that much confirm'd Mr. Clarke in the above Opinion, and put it past all Doubt, was on May 4th 1755, the Minutes of which are here transcribed, viz.

Mr. Warren on Sunday May 4th 1755, immediately after the Church Service and Sacrament in the Morning, (in the Vestry Room) gave Mr. Clarke the following Language,

guage, without any Provocation, or Mr. Clarke's returning one indecent or unman-
nerly Expression.

" That the *Parish* was very uneasy and
" dissatisfy'd at his *Behaviour*.

" That he neglected and did not at all
" regard the *Duties* of the *Cure*.

" That he (Mr. *Warren*) was filled and
" tired with Complaints of him, and that
" those he heard from the *Heads* of the
" *Parish*.

" That a Gentleman (then named) told
" him Mr. *Clarke* had said, that he had
" nothing to do with him, that he was Mr.
" *W—bt's* Curate and not Mr. *Warren's*.

" That the *Parish* wonder'd he would
" bear it, and that Mr. *Er—ton* ask'd him,
" why he did not turn him off.

" That Mr. *Clarke* had the best Curacy
" in *England*, and that he did the *least* for
" it of *any Person* he knew in the *World*.

" That Mr. *Clarke* was the most unfit
" *Man* in the *World* to serve a *Cure*.

" That he was as proud, as *Lucifer*.

" That he had a *bad Heart*, and Mr.
" *Warren* knew it.

" That Mr. *Clarke* could not be *ashamed*
" of his *Behaviour*, for he was *quite* or
" *thoroughly* *harden'd*.

" That he had endeavour'd to make a
" *Breach* between Mr. *Warren* and the Fa-
" mily, that was with Mr. *Clarke*, as he

“ saw by Mr. *Al—son* that Morning; but
 “ that it was not in Mr. *Clarke*’s Power to
 “ alienate the Affections of any of the rest
 “ of the Parish from him, that he had *any*
 “ *Value* for.”

These are the Subjects of the Language Mr. *Clarke* received, besides much more that was said upon them to the same Purpose.

And these Mr. *Clarke* affirms to be not only the Meaning or Words to the same Effect, but the very identical Words to a Syllable, as near and exact as Mr. *Clarke* could pen them down, which he did immediately after, and will always be ready to make Affidavit of the Truth of them.

Mr. *Clarke* is apprehensive, that the above Treatment is so far beyond what has been received, or even heard of from one Clergyman to another, and especially if the Circumstances of Time and Place be taken into the Account; that, he fears, it will be look’d upon as an Improbability, that such unbecoming Language could ever come from a *Person*, (the Characteristick of whose *Function* ought to be Peace and Benevolence) to one of the same *Order*; but if for this Reason any Doubt should attend the Credibility of it, it shall be farther attested by an Affidavit of the Truth of the Whole and every Part of it.

Mr. *Clarke* cannot but confess, that being stigmatized with the very worst of Characters,

ractions, that Man can deserve, has given him many anxious Reflections and much Uneasiness; it could not but put Mr. *Clarke* upon a strict Examination of his own Heart, whether he deserved this heavy Charge or not; and upon the most impartial Enquiry, his own Conscience does not testify, that any of these can justly be fixed upon him.

If Mr. *Clarke* deserved these Reproaches, he is at a Loss to find a Reason, why he was continued in the Cure for almost five Years afterwards: It will very likely be answered, that Mr. *Clarke* was continued in his Cure from the Motive of good Nature and Compassion to his Family, tho' contrary to Mr. *Warren's* Inclination and Judgment, as well as the general Suffrage and Opinion of the Parish; but if so, surely this Reason must have had much greater Weight at present, as Mr. *Clarke's* Family is now larger and much more expensive.

As to the former Part of the Accusations, Whether the Inhabitants were very uneasy and dissatisfied at Mr. *Clarke's* supplying the Cure,

Whether they filled and tired Mr. *Warren* with Complaints of him, and wonder'd, that he would bear it,

Whether he neglected and did not at all regard the Duties of his Cure,

Or whether Mr. *Clarke* did the least Duty in his Cure of any Person in the World, and

was the most *unfit Man* in the *World* to serve a *Cure*, are Questions, that will require no Comment or Explanation from Mr. *Clarke*; as they have fallen within the *Knowledge*, and lain open to the Observation of the whole Place.

But as to Mr. *Clarke* being as proud as *Lucifer*, having a *bad Heart*, being *insensible* of *Shame*, and quite *hardened*; these internal Vices not laying so open to Conviction, Mr. *Clarke* is contented to leave them to the Candour of his Readers.

Mr. *Clarke* was much more affected by this unkind Treatment, as he had immediately before been diligently attending to a *Pathetic Discourse* from Mr. *Warren*, that with *great Energy* had been enforcing upon the Congregation the Christian Virtues of *Charity* and *Benevolence*, and with a becoming *Warmth* recommending a due Participation to the Communicants: And he was indeed under a great Surprise, and thought himself very unhappy to fall under Mr. *Warren's* Displeasure and Resentment; especially at a *Time* and *Place*, so *peculiarly improper* for them to be shewn; and could have wish'd it had been in the Compass of his own Power and Conduct to have prevented, both Mr. *Warren* giving and himself receiving such unfriendly Treatment; but as he is conscious to himself, that he had given no Reason before or Provocation then, he
hopes,

hopes, the Fault will not be laid to his Charge.

Another Attempt to prejudice Mr. *Clarke* in the Opinion of his Neighbours, was to estimate his Preferment at double what the real Value was; thereby (as he conceives) to impeach his Prudence and Management with Regard to Oeconomy; or, it may be, on another Account, that need not be mention'd: And at the same Time greatly to depreciate and undervalue Mr. *Warren's* for contrary Reasons: It will hardly be believed (as the general Opinion has asserted the contrary) that *Hampstead*, *Charlton*, and *Dedham* are somewhat less than 300 Pounds per Annum; and Mr. *Clarke* (as he has often heard, they were more than double that annual Income) could scarcely have given any Credit to it, had it not been confirm'd by *incontestable Evidence*, no less than that of Mr. *Warren's Affirmation* supported by a particular Calculation, with the Circumstances and Conditions of each Living, under his own *Hand-writing*, which Mr. *Clarke* now has by him; and wherein Mr. *Warren* has asserted, that the *three Livings* are rather less, than that yearly Value: And therefore, however they may be magnified by *common Rumour*, Mr. *Clarke* out of Respect and Deference to Mr. *Warren's Ingenuity* and *Veracity*, would endeavour to believe them to be of no greater annual Income.

Another

Another Instance, by which Mr. *Clarke* could not but be sensible, that Mr. *Warren* was not so cordial towards him, as he could have wish'd, was this.

Mr. *Warren* having return'd to *H—p—d* in the *Easter Week* 1757, and undertaking to read Prayers on the *Saturday* in that Week and the *Monday* following, Mr. *Clarke* (as he had been confined by the whole Duty of the Cure the Winter past) had engaged himself for those Days on necessary Business; but receiving a Message from Mr. *Warren*, that it would be inconvenient for him to read on those Days, Mr. *Clarke* without Hesitation postponed his Business, and sent the following Card to Mr. *Warren*, wrote as he thought, with a proper Respect and Condescension to Mr. *Warren*, and with an Intention to accommodate and oblige him.

Mr. *Clarke*'s Compliments wait on Mr. *Warren*, and begs leave to inform him, that he has received the Favour of his; that he should be extremely glad of this Opportunity, as he has not had any Days of Leisure to settle his private Concerns this Winter; but as the Days mentioned will be inconvenient to Mr. *Warren*'s necessary Engagements, Mr. *Clarke* will attend the Duty at the Church on *Saturday* and *Monday*, and readily wait till such Times as will be more convenient

convenient to Mr. *Warren*. Our best Respects wait on the whole Family.

April 16th 1757.

N. B. The above was wrote down from Mr. *Clarke's* Memory immediately upon receiving Mr. *Warren's* severe Answer to it; Mr. *Clarke* believes it to be the same Word for Word, but should there be a Syllable Difference, Mr. *Clarke* desires it may be corrected by the Original being produced.

Mr. *Warren's* Answer was as follows.

“ Mr. *Warren* has received Mr. *Clarke's*
 “ Billet, and is not a little surpriz'd at the
 “ Contents of it: As he believes few In-
 “ cumbents in the Kingdom, have done the
 “ same Duty more unintermittently, for
 “ now near seven and twenty Years that he
 “ has; nor indulged their Assistants with
 “ half the Leisure for transacting their own
 “ private Concerns. Surely Mr. *Clarke's*
 “ Memory must be very treacherous, or he
 “ would not have given it under his Hand,
 “ that he has not had any leisure Days the
 “ whole Winter. Has not Mr. *Pendlebury's*
 “ Assistance afforded some? And did not
 “ Mr. *Warren* attend the Service himself on
 “ Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in this
 “ Week? Are these obliterated already, and
 “ like many other Acts of Kindness, buried
 “ in Oblivion? However, tho' Mr. *Warren*

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“ has

“ has not as yet had even Time to unpack
 “ his Things, or once to go to Town, yet
 “ he is determined to read To-day at the
 “ Church, also on *Monday* next; and con-
 “ tinue to do so on *Saturdays* and *Mondays*
 “ only, at the *Church*, during his Residence
 “ here this Season, unless Sickness, or un-
 “ foreseen Avocations prevent him, when
 “ he will give Mr. *Clarke* timely Notice.
 “ Few Things escape Mr. *Warren's* Obser-
 “ vation, and he is very sorry to find Mr.
 “ *Clarke* so insensible of the kindest Treat-
 “ ment, &c.

Hampstead, Saturday Morning Nine o'Clock,
April 16th N. S. 1757, in Haste.

Mr. *Clarke* and Mr. *Wright*, have timely
 Notice, that Mr. *Warren* must be absent on
Whitsunday next,

It will be necessary for Mr. *Clarke* to in-
 form the Reader of some Circumstances re-
 lating to these Messages, without which they
 cannot be so clearly understood.

Mr. *Clarke* has the Presumption to hope,
 that nothing in his Message to Mr. *Warren*
 could deserve an uncivil or virulent Answer;
 and yet Mr. *Clarke* could not but observe,
 that styling it a Billet, seem'd rather to con-
 vey an Idea of Contempt, than of Respect
 or Approbation.

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As to the *Time, Leisure, and Indulgence* Mr. *Clarke* could have in the Winter (when the whole Cure was upon his Hands) will be easy to judge of, if it be only consider'd, how much Mr. *Warren* (as he alledges) is *spent, harass'd, and fatigued* with only *that Part* of the Duty, that he undertakes in the *Summer Season*; tho' most of the *Burials, Christnings, &c.* and the Attendance at the *extreme Parts* of the Parish, still lay upon Mr. *Clarke*; and likewise what a *constant Subject of Complaint*, the Fatigue of this *heavy Load* of Duty upon Mr. *Warren* has furnish'd in all Companies and Families, where it has seldom fail'd of being introduced.

Mr. *Clarke* freely owns, that he has not acquired this great *Master Piece of Art*, in recommending and placing himself in that Point of popular View, from whence he may be look'd upon with *Compassion and Admiration* for his arduous and indefatigable Pains and Affiduity, in the Discharge of his Pastoral Labours; but whether the whole, or whatever Part of the Duty fell to his Lot, was ready and willing to undertake and discharge it without *repining or Complaint*, notwithstanding for some Years past the Duty was rather too much for his then impair'd Constitution.

As to the Obligation of Mr. *Pend—ry*'s and Mr. *Warren*'s Assistance (as set forth in Mr. *Warren*'s Answer) it stands thus.

Mr. *Pend—ry* read Prayers for Mr. *Clarke* three Times that Winter, not by Mr. *Warren*'s Procurement or on his Account, but as a mutual friendly Office between Mr. *Pend—ry* and Mr. *Clarke*, as Mr. *Clarke* had done Duty for him at *Hendon*; and therefore Mr. *Clarke* had Reason to hope, Mr. *Warren* would not have charged this upon him, as any great Obligation.

To put Mr. *Clarke*'s Obligation for Mr. *Warren*'s Assistance in a proper Light, Mr. *Clarke* ingenuously confesses, that Mr. *Warren* offer'd to read Prayers at the Church on *Easter Monday* 1757; Mr. *Clarke* thank'd him and said, he should not be from Home on the *Monday*, but should be obliged, if he would read Prayers on *Tuesday* instead of *Monday*, as Mr. *Clarke* was engaged on that Day to be at *Ellstree* to choose Parish Officers; on which Mr. *Warren* said he would read on both Days: But for the Charge of his Assistance on *Wednesday*, Mr. *Clarke* must take the Freedom of rectifying Mr. *Warren*'s Mistake, tho' it happens to be in direct Opposition to his Assertion; for Mr. *Clarke* attended the Duty that Day himself, read Prayers, christned a Child, buried a Corpse, and visited the Sick.

Now

Now these are the *great Obligations*, for which Mr. *Clarke* is charged with a *treacherous Memory*; these are the Favours, that he is so strictly *interrogated upon*, whether they are *obliterated* and *buried in Oblivion*.

As to *few Things* escaping Mr. *Warren's Observation*, Mr. *Clarke* would be willing to understand it in the most favourable Construction; for tho' he would be desirous of doing the *highest Justice* to Mr. *Warren's Merit* and acknowledged *Capacity*, yet thinks it would be a great *Violation* of his *Candour* and *Ingenuity* to suppose, that he design'd this Declaration should extend to all the *great Depths* of *abstruse Learning* and *Science*; this surely would be too much, for the most *exalted Genius* to grasp within its Comprehension; and therefore it will be more ingenuous and natural, to take it in a more confined and limited Sense, and that he meant by *few Things* escaping his *Observation*, only such as concern'd his own *Interest* and *Connections*; and if it be consider'd with this Limitation, it shall pass for an *indisputable Truth*.

Nothing more will be said of Mr. *Clarke's Insensibility* of the *kindest Treatment*, than, that he has been so unfortunate for some Years past, as not to have received any Favours from that Quarter, for which either his *Insensibility* or *Gratitude* can be called in Question.

If what has been *publicly* and *frequently* declared was true (*viz.*) that Mr. *Warren* has given Mr. *Clarke* at different Times *Presents* or *Gratuities* in Money to the amount of 105 *Guineas*, Mr. *Clarke's* *Obligations* would be great indeed, and Mr. *Warren* would be justly entitled to the warmest Acknowledgments of Thanks and Gratitude; but so far is this *Affertion* from standing on the Basis of Truth, that Mr. *Clarke* affirms; he never received from Mr. *Warren* any *Present* or *Gratuity*, since his first Connection with him. (Excepting that Mr. *Warren* undertook the kind Office of being Sponfor for one of Mr. *Clarke's* Children, for which, he takes this Opportunity of returning his most sincere Thanks.)

The above Declaration appear'd to Mr. *Clarke* such a Contrast to Candour and Ingenuity, that he could never have believed Mr. *Warren* could have been the *Author* of it, had not Mr. *Warren* asserted it under his *own Hand* (as will be shewn hereafter.)

In the Course of this Narrative it will appear, that all these *great Presents* and *Gratuities* were given for some *little Services* Mr. *Clarke* did at the Chapel, and that they were nothing more, than the *Wages of his Labour*: But if they will appear better in another Light, they must stand thus, (*viz.*) that Mr. *Warren* made Mr. *Clarke* a *Present* of the Money, and Mr. *Clarke* to shew his
grateful

grateful Acknowledgment, made Mr. *Warren* a *Present* of 278 *Sermons*; so that considering the Obligation on both Sides, in this genteel gratuitous Sense, it will appear mutual and reciprocal.

It may be farther observed, that Mr. *Clarke* had not full 8*s.* a Sermon, when every other Gentleman, that officiated at the Chapel, had 10*s.* 6*d.* at the least.

To make this Matter still clearer, it may not be improper a little to explain Mr. *Warren's* original Agreement with Mr. *Clarke*.

The Engagement stood thus.

Mr. *Clarke's* Salary from Mr. *Warren* was 20 Guineas *per Annum*, the Moiety of the annual Collection with Mr. *W—ght*, and 10*s.* 6*d.* *per* Sermon, in Mr. *Warren's* Absence at *D—d—m*, but was engaged in no Part of the Preaching without being paid for it; unless accidentally in the Summer Season Mr. *Warren* should be incapable by Sickness, or should have any particular Call to *London* or *Ch^{ar}lton*.

If therefore Mr. *Clarke* was not obliged by the *Conditions of his Agreement* to preach even at the *Church*, where the whole of his Duty lay, otherwise than as above; can it be supposed, that the *Obligation* of his former Agreement could require Mr. *Clarke* to undertake the Supply of *another Cure*, that Mr. *Warren* had thought proper to engage in, different from and not appendant to the

Parochial

Parochial Duty of the Church? and that several other Gentlemen had held before entirely independant of Mr. *Warren*, with regard both to the Duty and the Profits.

When Mr. *Warren* first engaged in the Chapel, he ask'd Mr. *Clarke*, what Compensation he would expect for the Assistance, that must necessarily be required of him for carrying this Design into Execution; Mr. *Clarke*, as he thought, very generously answer'd, that as Mr. *Warren* could not at present, be a proper Judge how the Thing would answer, he would undertake his Part of the Duty for 6 or 12 Months, without any particular *Stipulation*; and for that Time would be satisfy'd with such Recompence, which Mr. *Warren* should think proportion'd to the Duty he perform'd, and the Profits arising from the Undertaking; and that afterwards they would fix upon some certain Salary.

When Mr. *Clarke* had officiated at the Chapel 6 Months, Mr. *Warren*, after many Complaints of the great Loss he sustained by holding it, ask'd Mr. *Clarke* whether he would be satisfy'd with 20 Guineas per Annum; and Mr. *Clarke* giving Credit to the Complaints Mr. *Warren* had made, (tho' he has since been inform'd they were without Foundation) and believing it turn'd out as bad as represented, very readily said he would;

would; and upon this Footing it has ever since remain'd.

Upon the View of this Relation, which is nothing but the *plain Truth*, it may be ask'd, whether this may not be consider'd, as a *sufficient, stipulated Contract* between any two Men of *Honour and Fidelity*? And whether Mr. *Clarke* had not a *just Right* to demand that Salary, as the *deserved Wages* of his Labour? And how so mean and ungenerous a Declaration could be propagated Mr. *Clarke* is at a Loss to know; and thinks it might with as much Justice be said, that *every Shilling*, Mr. *Clarke* has ever received for the Supply of the Cure, was a *Present or Gratuity*.

It may not be improper farther to observe, that Mr. *Clarke* gave a constant *Succession of Receipts* every half Year, for his *Salary* for the Supply of the Chapel; but surely it must have a very strong Tendency towards an Absurdity, for a *Donor* to require a Receipt for every *voluntary Present or Benefaction*; and how it is reconcileable to *Propriety, Custom or Reason*, is left to the Judgment of the Reader.

What Mr. *Clarke* has said thus far, he imagines, will plainly evince, that Mr. *Clarke's* ungenerous Dismission from the Cure, was not founded upon any pretended *Neglects or Omissions* Mr. *Clarke* could justly be charged with; nor the Effect of any

E

sudden

sudden Resolution; but was plainly a *premeditated Act* to hurt Mr. *Clarke* and his Family, at a Time when Mr. *Warren* knew, it was most in his Power to distress him; and to represent him in such a Light to his Friends and Acquaintance, as might effectually obstruct his way to any future Preferment.

Mr. *Clarke* would beg Leave to observe, before he introduces the Papers, that passed between Mr. *Warren* and him from the Date of the Notice, that Mr. *Clarke* had had no sort of *Quarrel*, *Dispute* or *Altercation* with Mr. *Warren* before he received it; and some Weeks before the Delivery of the Notice (which was the *last* Time Mr. *Clarke* was in Company with or spoke to Mr. *Warren*) Mr. *Clarke* made him a Visit at his own House, was received with Civility, talk'd only upon general Subjects, and parted without the least Appearance of Resentment or ill Humour; and therefore the *sudden* and extraordinary Manner, in which the Notice was delivered to Mr. *Clarke* without any *previous Remonstrance*, or even so much as speaking to Mr. *Clarke* afterwards, was such unkind and severe Treatment, that Mr. *Clarke* conceives few have experienced but himself. I shall detain the Reader no longer on this introductory Part, but immediately lay before him the Papers that pass'd between Mr. *Warren* and Mr. *Clarke*,

The

The Notice was as follows.

Hampstead, September 27th 1759.

S I R,

“ For your repeated Neglects of my Du-
 “ ty, and that of this Day in particular, I
 “ give you Notice to quit your Share of my
 “ Curacy at *Christmas* next, being three
 “ Months Notice from the approaching
 “ *Michaelmas* Day, pursuant to the written
 “ Agreement subsisting between us; against
 “ which Time I am unalterably determined
 “ to provide another Assistant. Witness
 “ my Hand on the Day and Year above
 “ written.”

LANGHORN WARREN.

Mr. *Clarke* cannot but acknowledge, that he was greatly astonish'd and confounded at this *Message*; and the more so, as it was deliver'd to him in the *Church*, immediately after he came out of the Desk from reading Prayers: There is no one can wonder, if under such a particular and *perplexing Circumstance*, Mr. *Clarke* was in Doubt which way to act; but concluding upon serious Deliberation, that gentle Means would be most likely to produce Peace and Reconciliation, Mr. *Clarke* resolved to send the following Letter.

E 2

Mr.

Mr. *Clarke* here intreats, that the Candour and Indulgence of the Reader would make a favourable Allowance for any Faults or Inaccuracies, that may be in the following Letters, as they were wrote only for private Inspection, and not with any Design to be made public, and as they must now appear literal and genuine, there is no Possibility of Correction or Amendment.

Reverend SIR,

I Yesterday received your Order of Dismission without Wax or Wafer by Mr. *Redshaw* after Prayers; I must confess indeed, I was greatly shock'd and surprized, as it appear'd to me so remarkably sudden and abrupt, and as it was sent quite open by the Hands of the Pew-Opener of the Church; but I was still the more so, when I consider'd the Fact on which it was grounded.

I very readily acknowledge, that Mr. *Worsdale* told me the Day before, he expected a Couple to be married; but at the same Time solemnly declare, I never heard any particular Hour fix'd for my Attendance; otherwise it had been equally convenient for me, to have been there at one Time, as well as another.

My going out in the Morning, was an Avocation neither of Amusement or Pleasure,

sure, but upon the repeated Advice, and pressing Importunity of my Friends, for the Recovery of my late Illness; as riding, I was told, was the only Means of restoring my much impair'd Constitution, and reinstating me in that perfect Health, (by the Blessing of God) I formerly enjoyed: I set out earlier than ordinary (betwixt six and seven) intending to be back at half an Hour after Nine, which I thought was a proper Time, if the Couple came, for them to be married; but my Horse casting a Shoe upon *Mill-bill*, I was forced to go on to a Smith's Shop, to have one put on; by this Delay, I did not come Home till a few Minutes after Ten, which, considering the Accident, was not much out of Time to marry the Couple: That you had the Trouble of doing the Office, I am extremely sorry; but yet am persuaded you would have readily done such a Service for any Clergyman, that had not been immediately on the Spot.

This, Sir, is the plain Matter of Fact, and the particular Article, on which your Resentment is grounded; which, I hope, cannot reasonably be carried so far, as to dispossess me of a Cure, I have so long supply'd, and have at least endeavour'd faithfully to serve these eleven Years last past; however, this I can with great Truth say, it has always been with a Mind sincerely willing and desirous, to make those poor

Services acceptable to this Parish in general and you in particular ; and let me speak it, not without a due Sense of my own Imperfections, that, I flatter myself, after a proper Allowance is made for the narrow Extent of Memory, and other Weaknesses and Inabilities appendant to human Nature, the Duties of my Cure have been perform'd without any great Violations of Decency or Punctuality.

I would beg of you seriously to consider, what a Wound an Indignity of this Sort must make in my Character and Reputation, who have been in the Ministry 27 Years ; for surely he, that is unworthy to assist in a Cure, is still more so to be Minister of a Parish, and therefore it must highly reflect upon me with regard to my Incumbency : When a Curate is turn'd out of his Cure by his Rector or Vicar, I conceive, there is as strong an Implication of a very uncanonical or immoral Conduct, as when an Incumbent is suspended from the Exercise of his Function by Episcopal Censure and Authority : And therefore as such a Measure may injure my present Character, may prejudice those Friendships and Expectancies, that every one has in Life, and make me not only ridiculous, but contemptible ; I hope, I shall not be blamed, if I struggle with all my Might to preserve that,
which

which every honest Man ought to esteem more sacred and dear, than Life itself.

Thus much, I judged, I ought to say, the rest I shall leave to your Prudence, and good Understanding, trusting that you will alter an Intention, that is so much to the Prejudice of me and my Family; would my present Connections and Circumstances admit of it, I assure you, I would quit my Situation upon the least Hint, that my Services were not agreeable either to my Principal or Congregation, but at present they will not; and therefore presupposing your Leave and Approbation, I shall persevere in a steady and diligent Supply of the Cure, and shall always laboriously endeavour to approve myself to you and the Parish

A Faithful and Obedient Servant,

September 28, 1759. SAMUEL CLARKE.

P. S. I have not yet mention'd it to any Person, not even to my Wife and Family, but shall wait for the Favour of your Answer to this.

Mr. *Clarke* could not but flatter himself with an Expectation, that the above Letter would have wrought so far upon Mr. *Warren's Humanity*, as to have had some Influence towards softning Mr. *Warren's* Resentment and altering his *Resolution*; and the
more

more so, when Mr. *Clarke* considered upon how *slight an Accusation* his Dismission, after so many Years Service, was grounded; But so far was Mr. *Clarke* disappointed in his Hopes, that he received the following *peremptory Message*, in Answer to his Letter.

Hampstead, September 29. N. S.
1759.

Reverend SIR,

“ The Notice sent you I will punctually
 “ carry into Execution; and the more you
 “ struggle, I fancy you’ll find yourself the
 “ more entangled. You shall quit or I will
 “ —Against *Christmas* Day I will provide
 “ another Assistant; and after that Time
 “ you’ll attempt officiating, for me, here,
 “ at your Peril. As soon as I hear you be-
 “ gin to stir, I will, rest assur’d, keep pace
 “ with you, and lay your whole Conduct
 “ before Those, who shall be influenc’d by
 “ you, to speak to me on that Topic, as
 “ well as the Bishop of *London* and Dr. *Ni-*
 “ *colls*. So you have your Election, quietly
 “ to resign at *Christmas* next, or make bad
 “ worse; which will most certainly be the
 “ Case. I am, in Haste, Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

L. WARREN.

P. S.

“ P. S. I am privy to many Things you
 “ little think of. You’ll not forget to take
 “ Care of the Duty here on *Monday* next.

“ I shall answer no more Letters on this
 “ Subject.

“ The Notice was sent open designedly
 “ and Copy of it is taken.”

Mr. *Clarke* tho’ much disconcerted at this
 severe Reply, yet never remonstrated, or so
 much as mention’d this unkind Treatment
 to any of his Friends or Acquaintance, be-
 ing still resolv’d to give Mr. *Warren* no Of-
 fence, but rather endeavour to soften and
 move him by Condescension and Compli-
 ance, and therefore sent him the following
 Letter.

Reverend SIR, *October* 14th 1759.

As I am informed by your last Favour,
 that you are going a Journey To-morrow,
 and will be some Time from *Hampstead*, I
 take the Freedom of once more humbly
 desiring you to alter your Resolution of dis-
 missing me from the Cure: My Reasons for
 earnestly requesting this are,

That I am satisfy’d in my own Consci-
 ence, I do not deserve so sudden and unpre-
 putable a Dismission.

That I am still willing and desirous, of
 serving it with the greatest Diligence and
 Punctuality in my Power.

F

That

That being turn'd out of a Cure after 11 Years Service will not only injure my Character as a Clergyman, and be an invincible Objection to my soliciting any other Preferment, but will also render me more incapable of providing for a large Family, and put it out of my Power, to give my Children a proper Education.

That it will at this Time, above others greatly hurt me, as well on Account of above two Months Sicknefs, and extraordinary Expence, I have had in my Family, as with Regard to other Affairs relating to Circumstance, and some particular Embarrassments and Difficulties, that, as a Friend I could confide in, I have already communicated to you.

To these Reasons, Reverend Sir, give me Leave to add Intreaty, or if you please Supplication; and permit me only farther to appeal to your own humane and benevolent Disposition, that will second and enforce every Reason and Motive that has been offer'd.

I am Reverend Sir, with all due Respect,

Your faithful and Obedient Servant,

SAMUEL CLARKE.

P. S. I hope, Sir, you will excuse the Freedom of sending this contrary to your Directions; but I was encouraged to do it,
from

from carefully reading over between 90 and a 100 Letters and written Correspondencies, I have had the Favour to receive from you from the Year 48 to 59, wherein I have the great Comfort to find, that there are no Accusations of Insufficiency, Neglect of Duty, want of Sobriety or moral Conduct; and I hope these, in your own candid Judgment, will be some Support of my Character.

Mr. *Warren* did not condescend to favour Mr. *Clarke* with any Answer to this.

Notwithstanding Mr. *Clarke* was much discouraged by Mr. *Warren's* visible Contempt and Disregard of his *pressing Application*, yet was determined once more to try Mr. *Warren's benevolent Disposition*, and sent him the following Letter by his Sister Miss *H—w—ne*.

Reverend SIR,

As you have favoured me with no Answer to my last Letter, and having been informed that you leave *Hampstead* for the Winter Tomorrow; I have thought it a Duty I owe to myself and Family, and indeed to Peace and Harmony, to apply to you once more in the Spirit of Meekness and Condescension upon the Subject of my Dismission: I confess, the more I think of it, the more I am shock'd at the Disgrace and Infamy, that must attend it, not only to myself, but

even my Children may be deeply affected by that Reflection and Dishonour, that has been thrown upon their Father ; for I look upon being ignominiously turned out of a Cure, to be some Degree of Suspension.

As I have for these five Years last past been afflicted with a great deal of ill Health, and have during that Time with much Pains, and even *beyond my Strength*, laboured in the Diligent Supply of this Cure ; I think it *very hard*, now God has been so merciful to restore me to my Health, not to be continued in it.

It will be in vain to say much more, than what I have said in my former Letters, and therefore I can only repeat, that it will be very inconvenient and disadvantageous to me and my family to quit the Cure, and earnestly request of you, that I may be continued in it ; and farther to assure you, that my own best Endeavours shall not be wanting to serve it with Diligence and Punctuality, and, as far as it is in my Power, to the Satisfaction of you and the Parish.

You will be pleased to excuse my troubling you with this, as I am utterly precluded from making any other Application to you, by the strict Injunction I received in your last Letter ; and indeed I have so strictly complied with it, that I have not yet mentioned it to my most intimate Friends, or even asked their Advice upon it.

If I may be permitted to wait upon you to clear up any Objection, that may be laid against me, I shall do it with great Readiness and Pleasure, and shall be willing in every Instance to shew, that I am,

Reverend Sir, with all due Respect,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

Nov. 15th 1759.

SAMUEL CLARKE.

Mr. *Clarke* designed, that the above Letter should contain nothing, but what was consistent with all *due Respect, Civility, and good Manners* to Mr. *Warren*, and therefore presumed to hope, as he had sent it by a *Purpose Messenger*, that he might have received at least a *civil*, if not a *favourable Answer*; but so far were Mr. *Clarke's* Hopes from being gratified, that he received no other Answer, than the following *verbal Message* by Miss *H—wne. Hawtayne his wife's Sister*

(*Viz.*) Nov. 15th 1759.

“ That Mr. *Clarke* neglected so many Duties in his Cure, he could not *think* of keeping him any longer, and that he had been a *Thorn* in his Side for many Years.

“ That he was well assured, and could bring many People to prove it, that Mr. *Clarke* and his Family, had in all Companies and Families reflected upon and spoken *dis-*
“ *respect-*

“ *respectfully* of him and of *his Family*, and
 “ *particularly* at Mrs. S—th’s on the Hill.

“ That Mr. Clarke had had the *Assurance*
 “ to write *such a Letter* to Mr. Al—son of
 “ Cambridge, which had *accused* Mr. War-
 “ ren of using him ill; and had said therein,
 “ that now a certain Gentleman (then named)
 “ was gone from *Hampstead* and his Mo-
 “ ther was dead, that he (Mr. Warren) was
 “ going to turn him out of the Cure; that
 “ he was told of this by a Gentleman at
 “ Cambridge, who was *surprized* that he had
 “ continued him so long.

“ That he (Mr. Warren) had always treat-
 “ ed him *handsomely*, and had given him 100
 “ *Guineas* more than he had agreed with him
 “ for.

“ That Mr. Clarke *would deny* any thing.
 “ —That he would not *pretend* to talk with
 “ him, for he was *nothing* to him,—for he
 “ was the *greatest Bully* in the *World*, and that
 “ a Gentleman had told him so.

“ That he should lay *all his Conduct* before
 “ the *Bishop of London*, and that he had ma-
 “ ny more things to let out of the *Bagg*.

“ That Mr. Clarke had *behaved so ill*, that
 “ if the *whole town* were to *intercede* for him,
 “ he would not *alter his Resolution*, or *conti-*
 “ *nue* him in the Cure.”

It will be here necessary to throw some far-
 ther Light upon a few Passages in the above
 Message. Mr.

Mr. *Warren*, from a *general Charge* against Mr. *Clarke* and his Family, for *reflecting upon* and speaking *disrespectfully* of Mr. *Warren* and his Family, comes here to a *particular Instance* and fixes upon a *particular Person*; and if this, that is so *peculiarly singled out*, should prove to be *false and groundless*, what *Truth* and *Credit* may be allowed to the *general and indeterminate Charge* is left to the Opinion of the Reader: But the Person here fixed upon is ready to attest, that Mr. *Clarke* and his Family never *reflected upon*, or *spoke disrespectfully* of Mr. *Warren* and his Family, at her House or in her Hearing.

How Mr. *Warren* could come to the *Knowledge* of several *literal Expressions* and *particular Names* of Persons, which he *affirms* were mentioned in Mr. *Clarke's* Letter to a *Gentleman at Cambridge* (which Letter Mr. *Warren* never either *saw or heard*) is beyond all Conception: But so unhappy has Mr. *Warren* been in his Conjecture, (grounded, as may be thought, only on a *conscious Supposition* of what it *might* have been *natural* for Mr. *Clarke* to say to his Friend) that the Gentleman Mr. *Clarke* wrote to, is ready to make an Affidavit that not *one Sentence* or *one Person's Name* was in the Letter, that Mr. *Warren* has *asserted* to have been in it.

I have not mentioned these Particulars to anticipate the Reader's Judgment with Regard to the Candour and Ingenuity of this
Treat-

Treatment, but only to put it in a *clearer Light*, which otherwise he could not have seen it in.

The other Parts of this Message lie so open to Observation, that they need no Explanation; only Mr. *Clarke* begs Leave just to hint, that there is something *peculiarly terrible and menacing*, not only in laying *all Mr. Clarke's Conduct* before the *Bishop of London*; but that there is still behind a more *alarming Magazine of Terrors* to let out of the Bag: But notwithstanding Mr. *Clarke* is entirely unacquainted with the *Contents* of this Bag, yet he desires it may be *opened*, as he conceives that *dark and malignant Insinuations* may be far more *dangerous and destructive* to a *Character*, than *plain Speaking*; the former leaving full Scope to *every Imagination* to think the *worst*; whereas the *latter* fixes upon *particular Points*, and gives the Enquirer an Opportunity to examine into the *Truth*, and to form his Judgment from the *Evidence* that appears.

Mr. *Clarke* was so dispirited at this *severe Message*, that he could not but give up *all Hopes* and Expectations of *prevailing* upon Mr. *Warren* to continue him in the Cure; having been so unhappy to find his own repeated Endeavours unsuccessful, and being strictly forbid by Mr. *Warren* to make *any Application* to him by his *Friends or Acquaintance*; and therefore turned his Thoughts up-
on

on getting some *other* Employment, that might be consistent with his present Situation that he is confined to, by the *Articles* of a Lease of his present House for *four Years* to come.

But before he could make a *proper Application* to serve any Church or Cure, he thought it would be necessary to obtain a *Testimonial* from Mr. *Warren*; which was a Favour so *small*, and a thing so *customary*, that he had no Reason to think Mr. *Warren* would refuse him, and therefore sent the following Letter.

Hampstead, Mid. Nov. 21, 1759.

Rev. SIR,

As you have not thought me worthy of an Answer to either of my last Letters, and will not suffer me to address you by any *personal Application*, either by *myself* or *Friends*; I must naturally conclude, that you remain *inexorable* in your Resolution of *dismissing* me from the Cure.

As I am engaged for four Years longer in this House; when I am turned out of the Cure of *Hampstead*, I must of Necessity apply for something else, that may be consistent with my living here: The immediate Reason of giving you this farther Interruption, is a Matter (I hope) of no *higher Favour*, than what *common Justice* will fairly entitle me to.

G

I have

I have been at *Hampstead* almost twelve Years, above eleven of which I have *endeavoured* to serve the Cure of this Parish; and with what Degree of *Capacity, Orthodoxy, Sobriety, Morality* and *Conduct*, I am now requesting your *Testimonial* to ascertain: I shall not be so ungenerous to desire any but what I deserve, and you with a *good Conscience*, and without *Favour* or *Prejudice* may give.

As this will be necessary, before I can properly apply for Employment in my Function, I hope you will be so obliging as not to fail sending me a *Testimonial* by the Return of the Post.

I am, Rev. Sir, Your most obedient

humble Servant,

SAMUEL CLARKE.

P. S. As the Receipt of Letters by the Post are not certain, if I am not favoured with an Answer in a few Days, I shall conclude it has miscarried; and for the more Certainty shall send a Duplicate to *Dedham* by a purpose Messenger.

The following was the Answer *Mr. Clarke* received by *Mr. J—son*, transcribed from *Mr. Warren's* Letter to him.

27 Nov

27 Nov. 1759, Symond's Inn.

Rev. Sir,

“ Mr. *Warren* directs me to acquaint you
 “ that he has received your last Letter, but
 “ for his Word Sake shall write no more on
 “ that Subject and after *your Behaviour* in
 “ general and to him in particular is astonish-
 “ ed you should apply to him for a *Testimonial*.
 “ —He directs me to inform you farther, If
 “ you offer yourself to any Gentleman to
 “ serve his Cure, and that Gentleman will
 “ please to apply to him by Letter or other-
 “ wise, *He will not fail* to give you the Cha-
 “ racter you deserve without adding or dimi-
 “ nishing. And *this is all* he has to say in re-
 “ ply to your last Letter and *all the Answer* he
 “ shall ever give, write as many as you
 “ please.”

I am, Rev. Sir,

Your most obed. Servant,

C. J—SON.

Mr. *Clarke* could not but think himself un-
 der an *uncommon Hardship*, by being not on-
 ly turned out of his Cure, but *refused a Testi-*
monial; which Mr. *Clarke* believes was *never*
 before denied to any Gentleman that had
 served a Cure *above eleven Years* according to
 the best of his Abilities, and without ha-
 ving any Quarrel or Dispute with his Prin-
 cipal.

Mr. *Clarke* received one other verbal Message from Mr. *Warren*, by Mr. *J—son*, which, as it came under the *amiable Character* of *friendly Advice*, Mr. *Clarke* is obliged to Mr. *Warren* for.

The Purport of it was,—“ That Mr. *Warren*, out of a *tender Regard* to Mr. *Clarke*’s Family, advised him peaceably to go off without making *any Appeal, Remonstrance* or *Dispute* in Vindication of himself; for that if he *did*, Mr. *Warren* should be forced to the Extremity of *doing, discovering, or publishing* such Things, that would ruin Mr. *Clarke* and his Family.”

Mr. *Clarke* is extremely sorry, that the Justice he owes to his own Character, will not suffer him to obey this *friendly Admonition*, and hopes for that Reason Mr. *Warren* will excuse the Neglect of *this Advice*, which otherwise Mr. *Clarke* should have paid the *greatest Deference* to.

It may be expected, that some Reason should be given for publishing the following Paper; for I would not willingly fall under the Imputation of exposing any Thing, that had not an immediate Tendency or Relation to the present Purpose; but if the Reader will be pleased to recollect, I have said in the *former Part* of this Narrative, that the Report of Mr. *Clarke*’s having received such *large Presents or Gratuities* from Mr. *Warren*, would be *proved* under Mr. *Warren*’s own
Hand;

Hand; which Mr. Clarke thinks the Paper underneath will fully do beyond all Contradiction.

The following is the concise and exact Method Mr. *Warren* has taken for settling the Account, and obtaining Mr. *Clarke's* Receipt for 22*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*

“ On *April* 25th N. S. last 1759. I paid
“ Mr. *Clarke* his Year's Salary, due on the
“ 23d of that Month N. S. the Sum of
£ 21 0 0

“ Beside what I paid him for preaching for
 “ me on *Sunday* Mornings at *Hampstead*
 “ Church during my Absence at *Dedham*, in
 “ the Winter; and what I gave him gra-
 “ tuitously on Account of (what he calls)
 “ extraordinary Duty done by him at the
 “ Chapel at *Hampstead* tho’ I read Prayers
 “ for him at the Church on *Sunday* Morn-
 “ ings; I read Prayers also at the Church, on
 “ *Mondays* and *Saturdays*; and at the Cha-
 “ pel on *Wednesdays* and *Fridays* which oc-
 “ casioned him to have two Days in every
 “ Week and I had no more.

“ It appears therefore that Mr. *Warren*
 “ will owe Mr. *Clarke* on Account of his
 “ yearly Stipend, to the 23d of *Dec.* inclu-
 “ sive (when he and Mr. *Clarke* are to part,
 “ pursuant to the three Months Notice given
 “ him for that Purpose which expires at that
 “ Time) at the Rate of twenty-one Pounds
 “ *per Annum*, viz. from the 23d of *April*
 last

“ last N. S. (when his last Year's Salary was
 “ due and paid on the 25th Ditto) to the
 “ 23d of *December* N. S. inclusive (being
 “ just eight Months) the Sum of £ 14 0 0
 “ N. B. 21 l. per Ann. is 1 l. 15 s. per Month.
 “ Mr. *Warren* will owe Mr. *Clarke* further
 “ on *Dec.* 23d 1759 N. S. for preaching for
 “ him on *Sunday* Mornings at *Hampstead*
 “ Church from *Sunday* Morning *Nov.* 18 N. S.
 “ last (as Mr. *Warren* came away last from
 “ *Hampstead* to go to *Dedham* for the Win-
 “ ter on *Friday* Morning *Nov.* 16th N. S.)
 “ to *Sunday* Morning *Dec.* 23d N. S. inclu-
 “ five (which is just six *Sundays*) at half a
 “ Guinea per Sermon — — — £ 3 3 0
 “ Also for preaching for him at the Church
 “ on *Thursday* Morning *Nov.* 29th last being
 “ the *Thanksgiving* Day — — — £. 0 10 6
 “ Due for preaching }
 “ at the Church } £ 3 13 6
 “ Likewise Mr. *Warren* makes Mr. *Clarke*
 “ a Present of five Guineas more for (what
 “ Mr. *Clarke* calls) extraordinary Duty, done
 “ by him at the Chapel from *Mich.* last
 “ O. S. to *Xtmas* N. S. — — — £ 5 5 0
 “ As Mr. *Warren* gave Mr. *Clarke* ten
 “ Guineas at *Mich.* last on Account of *ditto*
 “ for the half Year, viz. from *Lady-day* to
 “ *Mich.* and so for the Quarter he does the
 “ same now at parting — — — £ 22 18 6
 “ And this will make just one hundred
 “ and five Guineas, which Mr. *Warren* has
 “ given

“ given Mr. *Clarke* over and above what he
 “ ever stipulated to pay him since he engaged
 “ in the Chapel, &c.

“ Received on *December 24th N. S. 1759*, of
 “ the Rev. Mr. *Warren* Minister of *Hampstead*
 “ by the Hand of Mr. *Charles J—son* the Sum
 “ of twenty-two Pounds eighteen Shillings and
 “ Sixpence in full Payment for all Duty, spe-
 “ cified in the within written Account and of
 “ all Demands on the said Mr. *Warren* as
 “ Minister of *Hampstead*

By me

“ Witness”

Mr. *Clarke*, in Justification of his former
Affertion, begs Leave to observe, that Mr.
Warren says in *so many Words*—that he makes
 Mr. *Clarke* a *Present* of *five Guineas*—and af-
 terwards, that he has given Mr. *Clarke* 105
Guineas over and above what he ever *stipu-*
lated to pay Mr. *Clarke* since he engaged in
 the *Chapel*, &c.—Though in the *Receipt* it is
 said, that the *whole Sum* of 22*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* is
 in *full Payment* for all *Duty* specified in the
within written Account—of which the *Duty*
 of the *Chapel* was certainly a *Part*.

Mr. *Clarke* cannot conceive how Mr. *War-*
ren could read Prayers for *him* at the *Church*
 on *Sunday Mornings* (as he alledges) when
 Mr. *Clarke*, by Mr. *Warren's* own *Appoint-*
ment was doing the *like Duty* at the *Chapel* at
 the *very same Time* ; unless it had been possi-
 ble

ble for Mr. Clarke to have officiated at *two different Places* in the *same identical Hour* : But if this must be placed on the *credit* Side of Mr. Warren's Account with Mr. Clarke, he desires Mr. Warren would *accept* in Compensation of *that Service*, the 2 s. 6 d. *per Sermon*, for 278 Services at the *Chapel*, that Mr. Clarke had *less* for officiating at the *Chapel* than *any other Gentleman* Mr. Warren employed : Neither can it be imagined, how Mr. Clarke could be under any *great Obligation* to Mr. Warren, on the Score of his reading Prayers on *Wednesdays* and *Fridays* at the *Chapel*, when Mr. Clarke by Mr. Warren's Order was reading at the *Church* at the *same Time*.

It may not be improper in the Conclusion of this Narrative to enquire, what *Accusations* have been laid against Mr. Clarke ; and those that have at *present* come to his Knowledge, are the following ; *viz.*

The Charge of *reviling* and *reflecting upon* Mr. Warren and his *Family* in all *Companies* and *Families*, where Mr. Clarke has been.

Not *duely* attending the *Funeral* of a Child or Relation of one *Moreton* of *West-End*.

Not visiting Mr. Cook in his *Sickness*, who was several Months confined to his Room and Bed by a Cancer in his Breast and Throat, and at last died of it.

And

And not being *immediately* on the Spot to marry a Couple on the 27th of *September last*.

These are the *Crimes and Misdemeanors* Mr. *Clarke* has been *charged* with ; to which may be added (as *they* were placed to Mr. *Clarke's* Account) some *considerable Neglects*, that happened on *Saturdays or Mondays* the last Summer, the Days Mr. *Warren* had given Mr. *Clarke* (as he alledges) for himself to transact his own private Affairs, and on which Mr. *Warren* had engaged for the Duty of the Church ; and particularly, among others, one relating to a *Funeral* out of Mr. *Ladyman's* Family at *West-End*, that waited at the Church-Gate above an *Hour* ; yet even *this Neglect* (as many more of the same Kind) was *ungenerously charged* upon Mr. *Clarke*, though he *never knew*, that any such *Funeral* had been, till he heard of it at *West-End* above a Week after the Interment.

The former of the above Accusations, Mr. *Clarke* has *already* spoke to, and will add no more, than to put the thing upon this short Issue.

That if out of the *whole general Charge*, only *one Family* can be found, which will *assert*, that Mr. *Clarke* has been the Author of any *Scandal or Detraction* to the Prejudice of Mr. *Warren*, or *any other Person*, it shall be allowed as a *Conviction* : And surely *Innocence* itself cannot venture to *trust* her Character to a *nicer Purgation*.

That of not being in *exact* Time to marry the Couple, (for which *Crime* the *Notice* was

sent) has been *partly* explained before in Mr. *Clarke's* Letter to Mr. *Warren* on *that* Subject: and therefore nothing more need be said, than to appeal to the Judgment of the Reader, whether the Trouble Mr. *Warren* had in *marrying* the Couple, on Mr. *Clarke's* being detained an *Hour* longer than he intended, by a *particular unavoidable* Accident, was a *Cause* sufficient in *Reason*, *Justice*, or *Humanity*, to *dismiss* him from a *Cure*, he had served eleven Years?

The *Charge* of not duly attending the Funeral from *West-End* shall be submitted to the same Decision, upon the following true State of the Case.

The Managers of the Funeral had appointed 7 o'Clock for the Time of Interment: Mr. *Clarke* stayed waiting for it in his own House till 8, at which Time the Grave-Digger came to give Notice it was coming, and Mr. *Clarke* went with him *directly* to the Church; the Corpse not being there, Mr. *Clarke* walked *half an Hour* under the Church-Wall waiting for it, but on finding himself very cold, and a sudden Shivering come upon him, he found he could stay *no longer* in *that* Situation without *much* endangering his *Health*; and upon an Information being given by Mr. *Loudon's* Son, that he had *then* been at the Top of the Hill beyond Mr. *Snoxall's* and they were not coming, Mr. *Clarke* told Mr. *Worsdale* he was apprehensive he had taken Cold, and would
return

return Home and *wait there* till the Burying came; accordingly Word was brought at 9 o'Clock, that the Corpse was come, and Mr. Clarke went *directly* and buried it.—Now whether this was a *due Attendance* or not, Mr. Clarke does not desire to determine for himself.

As to the *Non-attendance* upon Mr. Cook, Mr. Clarke will not detain the Reader long upon that Point; but thinks it will be sufficient for the Present to say, he has undeniable Evidence to produce, that he visited Mr. Cook long and frequently during his severe Affliction, so often, as at proper Intervals to administer the *Sacrament* to him *three Times* at the least; and though his unhappy Disorder was very offensive, though he had no religious Scruples or Uneasiness of Mind, yet Mr. Clarke did not omit to visit him till the Time of his *Death*, as often as Mr. Cook desired or Mr. Clarke thought it *needful*; and Mr. Clarke believes, he was in as proper a State (both with Regard to his Sense of *Religion*, and his most *exemplary Patience* and *Resignation* under his *great Trials*) to pay the Debt of Nature, and enter into a Future Life, as any Person he ever attended.

The *last Time* Mr. Clarke visited him was about *two Days* before he died, when, being *very faint* and *weak*, and *scarcely able* to speak, he beckned Mr. Clarke to come *near* to him; and then taking him by the Hand, he with

much Difficulty said, " that he had one thing
 " upon his Mind that *troubled* him ;" and up-
 on Mr. *Clarke's* asking what it was, he replied
 in these Words :—" I hear there is a
 " Report spread about, that you have not
 " *visited* me in my Sickness," (and after
 shewing some Tokens of Concern at it,
 added) " but *what* is it, that *this Town* will
 " not say?"—and then with Tears running
 down concluded—" I am much obliged
 " to you for all the kind Assistance and Com-
 " fort you have afforded me in my Affliction,
 " on, and I pray God to bless you for it."

Mr. *Clarke* hopes the Reader will *impartially* give his Opinion, whether Mr. *Clarke* has been *generously* treated in this *tender Point*, or not ; and *cannot* dismiss it without making this *one Observation*, that if the *Shepherd himself* had visited this *weak and infirm Part* of of his *Flock* (which Mr. *Clark* never heard he did, any otherwise than by calling twice at the Door) he would have had *no Occasion* to exclaim so *loudly* against Mr. *Clarke* for the *Neglect* of this poor Object, but on the contrary might have been *convinced* by his *own Experience*, that the Hireling had *conscientiously* discharged his Duty.

Mr. *Clarke* is *sensible*, he stands in need of the Reader's *Indulgence* for the *Tediousness* of this Narrative; yet could not but think himself under an Obligation to say thus much, as well out of Justice to his *own injured Character*,

as to give *some Satisfaction* to the *Inhabitants* of this Place in *general*, (amongst whom he has lived so many Years) and to his *Friends* and *Acquaintance* in *particular*, to whom he allows himself, in *some Measure*, accountable for his Conduct.

Mr. *Clarke* thinks he has so far kept *close* to his *professed* Intention, as to lay these Sheets before the Publick in the *plain* Dress of *Truth* and *Simplicity*, and has studiously endeavoured to avoid, as well all impertinent Flourishes and Embellishments of Art, that would only serve to *puzzle* and *perplex* the Enquirer after Truth; as to give a Check to the *Sallies* of Resentment, and confine the *Savage* Spirit of Satyr and Invective by the Reins of Moderation and Reason.

He desires *no Favour* or *Partiality*.—*Justice* and *Equity* are all he requires; and whether they determine *for* him or *against* him, will readily acquiesce in and be satisfied with the *Decision*.

If he has been the *Injurer*, let him suffer according to his *Demerit*; but if he has been *injured* and *dishonourably* treated, let him find an *Asylum* in every candid Mind, and permit him to demand some *Reparation*.

P. S. Mr. *Clarke* hopes that *nothing* will be considered as an Answer to this, but what comes forth in *Print* or *Manuscript*, supported by *proper* Vouchers and Evidence: And
Mr.

Mr. Clarke hopes he has given Mr. *Warren* a fair Opportunity (if he is wronged) of doing himself Justice ; as what Mr. Clarke has here said will remain fixed and permanent, free from all *Chicanerie* and *Prevarication*, and will be in no Danger of being enlarged, diminished, or altered in its genuine Sense (as was observed before) by uncertain Rumours, Misapprehensions, or unfair and malicious Relations.

Mr. Clarke had an Intention of producing in his Defence about a hundred of Mr. *Warren's* Letters and written Correspondencies to Mr. Clarke, in the Course of eleven Years; wherein Mr. *Warren* has shewn Mr. Clarke so much Indulgence, as to look upon him in a very different Light from that, in which he has of late represented him; in these would have been found no Complaints of Neglect of Duty, Want of Assiduity or moral Conduct : And though Mr. Clarke was very sensible, that such an Evidence, under Mr. *Warren's* own Hand, might have been the properest Counterbalance to any unfavourable Impressions, that may have been made on the Inhabitants of this Place or elsewhere, to the Prejudice of Mr. Clarke; yet it shall be deferred for the Present, lest it might have the Appearance of Ill-nature and Malevolence, to publish so many of any Gentleman's private Letters, wherein some Inaccuracies may have escaped the Notice and Correction of a Person, who, on Account of a great Variety of Engagements, and a con-
stant

stant Multiplicity of Business both *Spiritual* and *Temporal*, generally writes in *haste*, or *calamo currente*.

There are some other *Points* Mr. *Clarke* would have spoke to, wherein he thinks himself materially concerned ; but as the *Circumstances* are not immediately connected with *that Relation*, Mr. *Clarke* has borne to Mr. *Warren*, as his Curate of *this Parish*, they cannot so properly come within the Design and Intention of *this Narrative* ; and therefore the more *particular* Discussion of them shall be reserved to a future Occasion, that will most *probably* offer ; and will then (it may be) serve, as a proper Contrast to the *Contents* of that *Bag*, that is to be *opened*.

Mr. *Clarke* conceives, he has *Reason* to expect that the *Facts*, contained in the foregoing *Narrative*, will be looked upon as *Truths* by every candid Person, till they are *fully* and *publickly* answered, and *proved* to be *false* ; and as far forth as *any Part* of it can be *confronted* with *Truth* and proved to be so, if Mr. *Clarke* is not able to make a *full* Defence, he will readily submit and lie open to *Conviction*.

Mr. *Clarke* thinks this is so *serious* a thing, that it cannot be *laughed off* or made *slight of* ; and that Mr. *Warren* will not look upon Mr. *Clarke* with so much *Disregard* and *Contempt*, or esteem him so *very inconsiderable* and *unnoticeable*, as not to deserve an *Answer* : for Mr.
War-

Warren must remember, that all Subalterns, when they have thrown up their Commission, have a Right to Demand a reasonable Satisfaction for Injuries from their Superiors: and though the sacred Function of the Clergy has happily secured them from all unchristian Repentment and Reparation of Injuries; yet when their Character (the very Life and Soul of their ministerial Office) is maligned and dishonourably treated, they may surely be allowed to have a Right to defend it, and do Justice to themselves, with that Instrument, that their Education and Profession have put into their Hands.

F I N I S,



